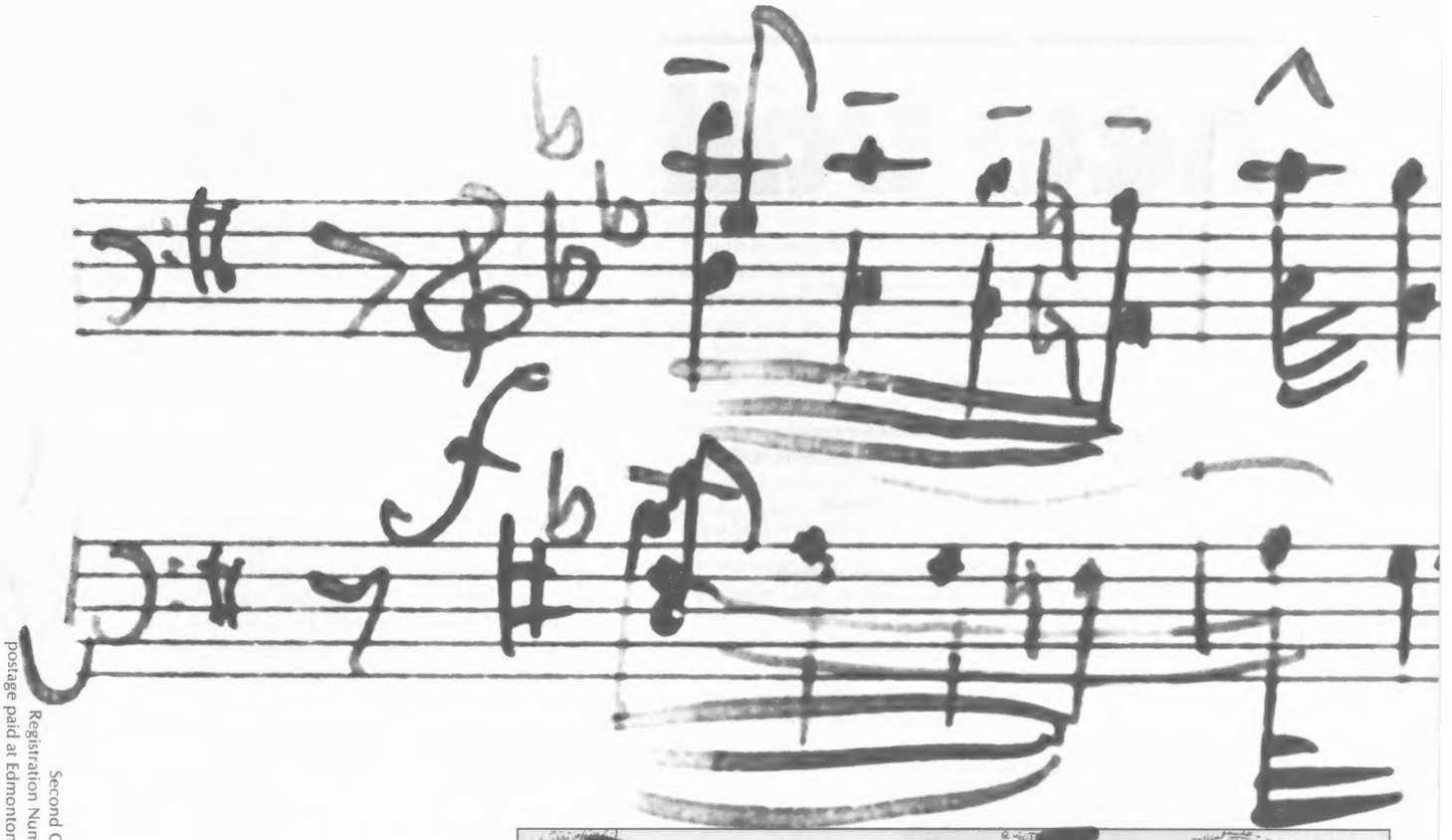
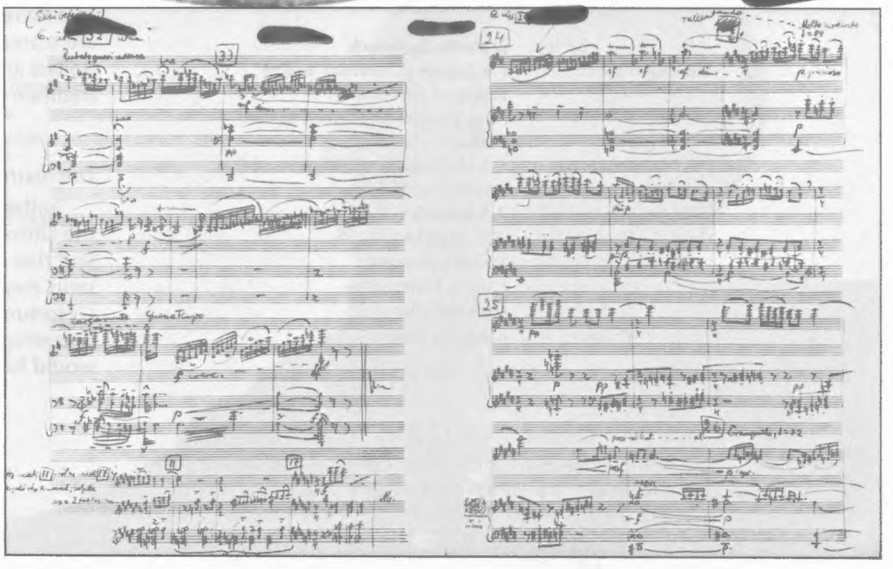
june 1974

the university of alberta magazine

new trail





Second Class Mail
Registration Number 3244
Postage paid at Edmonton, Alberta

Is your address correct?
If not, please return your label to the Editor,
New Trail, *The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta.*

In this issue: A very human article on Hungarian master violinist Zoltan Szekely, Bartok, and greatness . . . a look at the stress of being a student . . . and a glimpse through thirty years of The University of Alberta Mixed Chorus. The cover gives a sampling of Bartok's music in his own hand, from the original first and second endings of his First Rhapsody for Violin and Piano (manuscript courtesy of Thomas Rolston, Professor of Music).

new trail

Volume 29, Number 6
June, 1974
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

Contents

2 **Pembina—there's more . . .**
by *David C. Norwood,* New Trail staff

3 **Greatness is an attitude . . .**
by *David C. Norwood,* New Trail staff

6 **That Mixed Chorus tradition**
by *Jeanette Rothrock,* New Trail staff

8 **Stresses on students:**
what they are, why they are,
and what is being done about them
by *Jeanette Rothrock,* New Trail staff

11 **Alumni Notes**
by *A.G. Markle*

Editor **Jeanette Rothrock**
Advisory Committee **F.T.Jenner** (Chairman of the Board of Governors)
Max Wyman (President of the University)
C.J.McAndrews (President of the Alumni Association)
Business Manager **A.S.Knowler**
Alumni Affairs Editor **A.G.Markle**
Writer **David Norwood**
Copy Editor **Norma Gutteridge**
Design **Richard Kerr**
Production **Marjorie Olsen**

Published by The University of Alberta for its alumni and friends.
Editorial Office: University Publications Office, telephone 432-4991.
Contents copyright The University of Alberta: requests to reprint material may be directed to the Editor.

Second Class Mail—Registration Number 3244

Pembina: There's More . . . .

Concerted efforts *can* work. In the few months since the University Board of Governors announced the closure of Pembina Hall on April 30, there has been a growing concern among various individuals and groups for the survival of it and its sister residences, Athabasca and Assiniboia. Our *New Trail* article was part of the growing chorus which was making itself heard.

Then, just before the April issue of *New Trail* appeared, Walter D. Neal, Vice President (Planning and Development), presented a report on the three residences to the Board of Governors. While Dr. Neal's report made no recommendations *per se,* it did outline some "possible lines of action."

One of them suggested that Pembina Hall be renovated "for residential accommodation, maintaining a very similar structure and functional configuration to that which now exists." Also suggested were detailed studies on the feasability of restoring Assiniboia as a residence and Athabasca as an academic or administrative building. Cost estimates remain about two-and-one-half million dollars for all three buildings.

Dr. Neal's report went to the Building Committee of the Board of Governors, where the "possible courses of action" acquired the more definite tone of "recommendations." When they were presented to the full Board in April, there was no dissension. The decision was made to proceed with renovations to Pembina, and to initiate the feasability studies for Athabasca and Assiniboia. Like the December move to close Pembina, the latest decision took less than five minutes of the Board's time.

Pembina closed, as scheduled, on April 30. But the closure is definitely temporary. Renovation plans are well underway, and the building is expected to re-open for its new residents in September, 1975.

Such positive action does not imply a policy of "economics be damned." Money will be spent carefully and there will be few frills. Still, at a time when funds are scarce and when virtually anything is equated with dollars and cents, it is nice to know that the price of tradition—whatever it is—has been met. *DCN*

The mathematics of it all

In the last issue of *Trail* we noted that enrolment at the University had increased by 700 in 1973-74. Then we said that a change of more than 7.5 per cent in enrolment units means that provincial funding can be renegotiated. Unfortunately, 700 does not even approximate that magic percentage, no matter *how* you look at it. The increase would have had to exceed 1,150. Perhaps next year. . . .

Greatness is an attitude...

by David C. Norwood, New Trail staff

Zoltan Szekely is not a household name. He is not adulated by the masses. But he *is* respected and praised by people familiar with violin music. He is considered to be without peer in his interpretation of the violin works of Beethoven and Bartók—one of his closest personal friends—and other composers. Zoltan Szekely is a violinist, first and last. He plays a Stradivarius which dates from 1718 and bears the name "Michelangelo." He is a soloist and an ensemble player. He is a virtuoso in every sense of the word. Most important, he has the ability to convey his love of music to those who want to share it with him.

Born in Hungary in 1903, Zoltan Szekely studied to be a solo violinist and obtained his diploma from the Budapest Academy in 1921. During his studies chamber music had become a hobby—he had been called upon to participate, in fact, to help instruct, in chamber work when he knew next to nothing about it.

Then in 1935, recovering from pleuresy, Szekely was asked to become first violinist of the newly-formed Hungarian String Quartet. The hobby became a way of life for most of the next thirty-six years. In 1971 he began a slow, relaxed return to solo and guest performances.

When Zoltan Szekely spent the month of March in Edmonton he was subjected to an incredibly busy schedule. In occasional, more private moments he and Madame Szekely shared their memories of almost half a century of travelling all over the world. I was fortunate enough to share part of a spring afternoon with them, and with Tom Rolston, Professor of Music and first violinist of The University of Alberta String Quartet.

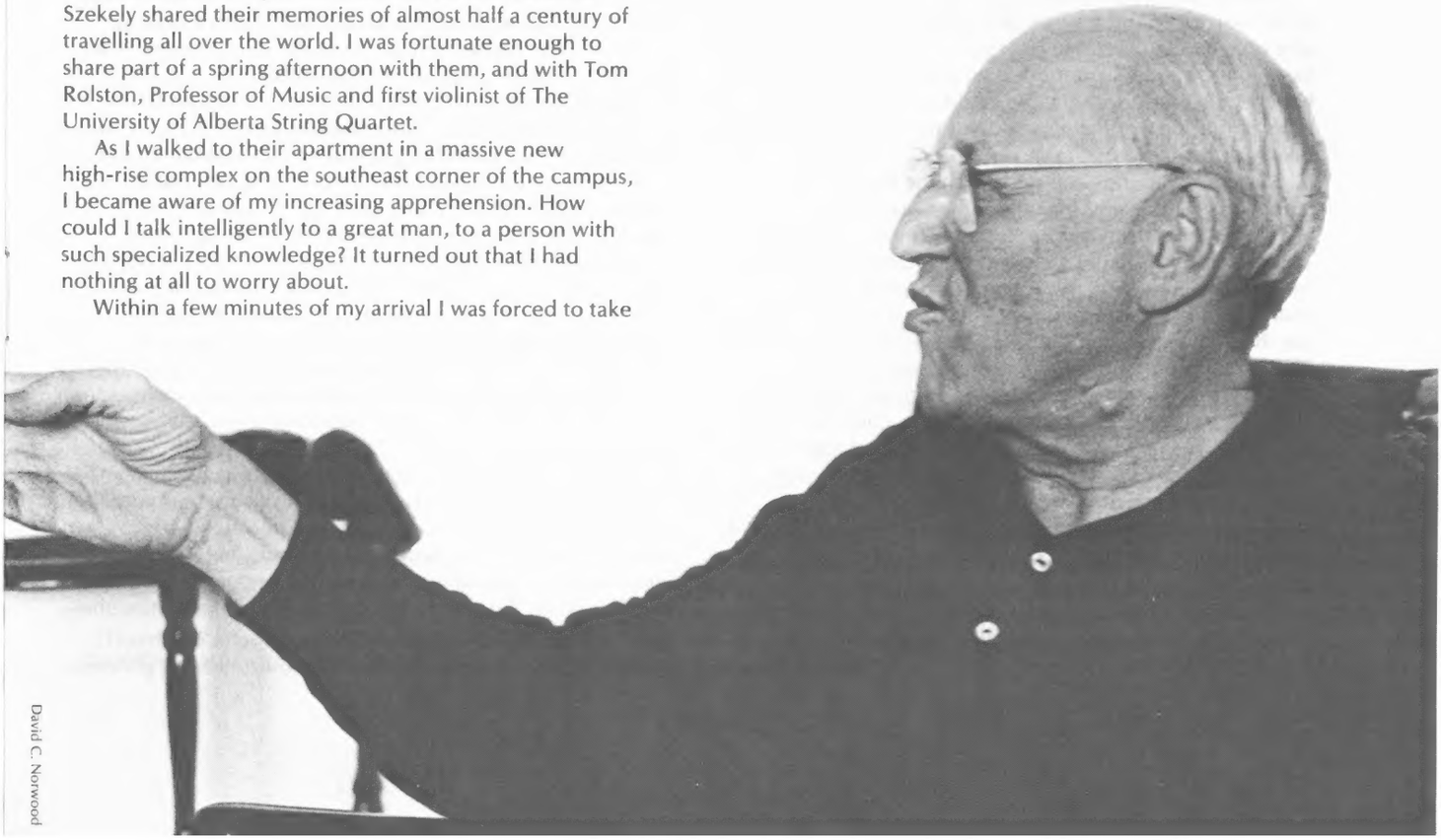
As I walked to their apartment in a massive new high-rise complex on the southeast corner of the campus, I became aware of my increasing apprehension. How could I talk intelligently to a great man, to a person with such specialized knowledge? It turned out that I had nothing at all to worry about.

Within a few minutes of my arrival I was forced to take all of the clichés I had once thrown out the window—"convivial atmosphere," "old-world charm," and so on—and bring them right back in. Strong, delicious European-blend coffee, the likes of which I had not tasted in years, was served me by Madame Szekely just as I had set up the tape recorder. Where would I like to sit? Where should everyone else sit? Formal politeness dissolved into warm friendliness.

Where to begin? There was no idle banter; Zoltan Szekely has been through enough interviews to know how not to waste time. And time was precious, since the Edmonton visit was ending soon and there were so many things left to do.

The life of a musician is a challenge, if nothing else. People usually see only the totally public part of it: in front of an audience, performing, receiving applause, leaving. The exchange of favors is complete, the artist has exchanged his interpretation for appreciation and, hopefully, comprehension.

Yet there is more to it, even more than the practising and rehearsing. The Szekelys have spent almost their entire married life travelling together. When they talk of the tours, of the people and friends they've met, it is apparent that they have shared these memories with others



David C. Norwood

before. But none of the enthusiasm of relating them has disappeared. I ask them what it is like to have spent their lives travelling, remembering my own agony of spending four months living out of a suitcase a few years ago. Almost simultaneously, right from the heart, they say "tiring! We dislike hotels, but how we love it in here!" exclaims Madame Szekely, looking around the apartment. Even though it is a temporary home, the Szekelys have been able to give it a bit of their own touch.

There is a "permanent" home for them, in Los Angeles, but they spend little time there. One year they spent two days at home; just about the longest period they've spent in one place is four months.

"For the musician," says Szekely, "life is not so easy. You take two or three suitcases and you travel for six months, and you don't have everything you need, just the essential things. But it's a necessary thing . . . well, it's a strange life, specializing in concert tours.

"Now," he continues, "that is one thing which is wrong with this concert life. It shouldn't be that an artist is only a great artist if he is known world-wide. You have to go everywhere, and that is not so good."

"You know," Madame Szekely interjects, "if you don't go out on concert tours, the people forget. So you have to go. And they expect you to come so quickly. We get a call from Australia, and they want you there next week; well, you feel you should go. . . ."

"It's worse now than it was a generation ago," adds Szekely. "With airplanes and such, you can't relax as much."

I mention the so-called ideal of the musician: to take music to the people. How applause is the ultimate expression of appreciation.

Zoltan Szekely has heard all this before. "Yes, I know; it's all wonderful and it's true. But it means . . . that you give up your own life." He laughs ironically. "You don't *have* your own life." Yet there is no doubt that he really believes the ideal. Nothing else could possibly make fifty years of touring worthwhile. And, for the most part, it has been worthwhile.

Most of the touring was done with the Hungarian String Quartet. From its inception, the Quartet was received with acclaim and enthusiasm. The liner notes on one of its record albums state that the group had "gleaned" for itself an international recognition which very few chamber music organizations of our era can equal." Although the threat of war forced the Quartet to move to Holland, by 1939 it was renowned in every major European centre.

The war put a temporary stop to the group's public activities—only members of the Nazi party could undertake such performances—but the Quartet remained together and was anything but dormant. Beethoven became the object of study and, moving from house to house to avoid detection, the Quartet studied, practised, interpreted, and played his sixteen string quartets until each was second nature.

The greatest fear held by the members during the war was that the world would forget them. After all, their group was of recent formation. Thus with the war's end they were eager to test the public's memory. The first year after the war, no one could really get around; communication and transportation had not been restored, and everyone was busy. "But the second year," says Zoltan, "we went out right away and continued our concert tour in Paris. And, fortunately, they had not forgotten." Madame Szekely is less modest and tells us that audience response was wildly enthusiastic. Appearances throughout Europe followed, then South America and finally, in 1948, North America.

Two years later the Hungarian Quartet emigrated to the United States and settled in California. Still, the world remained its concert hall, for the touring never stopped.

Edmonton was its home for one month in 1967. As guests of the University and the City—part of Canada's centennial celebrations—the members of the Quartet devoted their time mainly to Beethoven's string quartets, sharing their talents with highly appreciative audiences.

The Hungarian Quartet disbanded in 1971. Some members wanted to settle down and do something new, or they wanted to become soloists. In any event, the disbandment was amiable, if sad, because such a group cannot be replaced overnight if at all.

When he was very young, Zoltan Szekely came to know Béla Bartók, and something approaching instant musical rapport occurred. That rapport soon broadened into a deep, lasting friendship, in spite of initially enormous differences in age and experience—Bartók was the senior in both. Bartók was a specialist in Hungarian folklore and music. Before the approaching war forced him to leave Hungary in 1938 (he settled in New York), he composed literally thousands of mucical pieces incorporating the themes of his native country. Long before his death from leukemia in 1945 he was recognized as one of the most important, if not appreciated, composers of the century.

Bartók's music is difficult. It is intricately woven layers of dissonance with impossible changes in tempo and chord structure. While it adheres generally to traditional rules of composition—there are distinct movements, thematic progressions, and chord progressions—it seems not to. Its most striking effects are achieved with dischords which stretch over the entire musical spectrum or with a dazzling array of minor or augmented chords. To see Bartók's music is to disbelieve that it can be played; to hear it played is to disbelieve one's ears. On paper the notes appear to combine erratically and one fully expects to hear a jumble of toneless noise. When the opposite effects are achieved in the playing, Bartók—not to mention the musicians—gains instant respect.

Bartók's unconventional sounds were too radical a departure from tradition for some of his contemporaries. In many places his music was received poorly; in others it was attacked. Zoltan Szekely remembers that one of his music teachers would not allow him to perform any of Bartók's work. But there *were* people who championed the music, and one of them was Szekely.

Such dedication was not without its rewards. The friend-

ship meant that Szekely almost totally comprehended the *intent* of Bartók's work as well as its interpretation, and this has in turn been passed along to others over the years. In addition, Bartók paid Szekely the ultimate compliment: one day he came to Szekely with two compositions for violin and told him to choose the one he wanted dedicated to him. He chose the Second Rhapsody for Violin and Piano, which many regard as Bartók's finest piece. Bartók dedicated the other composition to the Hungarian virtuoso Joseph Szigeti, who by then was highly experienced and world-famous. Szekely, on the other hand, was a young twenty-five.

What is this special feeling Zoltan Szekely has for Bartók's music? I ask this question, adding that it might be a difficult and naive one, but could he explain it? It's a difficult question, he agrees, but says nothing about it being naive. The basic answer which emerges is that Bartók's music had strong emotional appeal for him. But it also was music written for violin in a period when there was particular emphasis on that for piano—Szekely admits to being a champion of the violin: "I would go from composer to composer and ask if he had written anything for the violin."

Bartók helped him in these searches, too, with letters of introduction and recommendation. But most of all, the friendship was the catalyst for the musical rapport, and vice versa. "I am most proud," says Zoltan, "that . . . he *liked* me. The nicest thing of all was that he put you on the same level as a young man as he did with more experienced people. I was a person—I won't say his *favorite*—with whom he could be. . . ."—he searched for the word; Madame Szekely suggested one in another language, and he said "Yes, that's it—who he could be . . . open with, yes. That was the nicest thing."

The current trip to Edmonton has focussed on Szekely's knowledge of Bartók. The visit was the "brainchild," as Szekely puts it, of Tom Rolston, of the Department of Music. The two met some time ago, though Rolston says he knew Szekely before Szekely knew him. More than ten years ago, Rolston, who is also music co-ordinator of the Banff Centre, began what was to become an annual request: he wanted Szekely—and the Quartet until its dissolution—to attend the School's Summer Session to instruct. He wanted us to come," says Szekely, "and he was very insistent. Well, that was right at its beginning, and I thought that Banff was a sort of summer camp with tents and things like that. And it's much more than that, of course. But that's what I thought, so I didn't go into it too deeply—I thought we'd have to take sleeping bags, and so on."

"And," adds Rolston, "the Quartet was very busy at the time, so it was a matter of being lucky and getting them at the right time." Finally, while Rolston and Szekely were in Paris two years ago making some recordings, the insistence paid off. Szekely went to Banff, presumably without a sleeping bag. The idea of a sojourn in Edmonton came out of the Banff experience.

"There's an important factor here," says Rolston regarding the importing of groups such as the Quartet or individuals such as Zoltan Szekely. "Edmonton is isolated, geographically, completely isolated, from the rest of the world. So, the philosophy of our department has been that, well, Alberta is the best and its people are the best; therefore we must bring the best to them. And Zoltan is one of the best, so it was only natural that we bring him here."

Madame Szekely spoke up quickly. "You know, it works two ways." She looks at Rolston. "You don't know what a joy it gives Zoltan to be asked to play those Bartók pieces here."

And this brings up another reason for being in Edmonton. Years ago, Szekely recorded many of Bartók's violin works for the Hungarian government, and they have been released again as part of a new edition. But the edition is incomplete, and the Hungarian government recently asked Szekely to come to Budapest and record both of Bartók's rhapsodies for violin and piano—the works dedicated to Szigeti and Szekely.

In the summer of 1973, at the Banff Centre, Szekely performed with pianist Isobel Moore Rolston, a lecturer in music at The University of Alberta. And, as Madame Szekely says, "Zoltan telephoned Budapest from Los Angeles and told them there was somebody in Canada he wanted to do the rhapsodies with. And that is Isobel. And she could do it beautifully. She's marvellous."

Szekely continues. "Yes, we had worked together in Banff, so I knew what I was saying."

"So," I say, "you persuaded the Hungarian government to let you come here and record with her."

"Yes, so I asked them, and said that, well, either I do it here [in Edmonton] or maybe I *never* do it for them."

The government agreed.

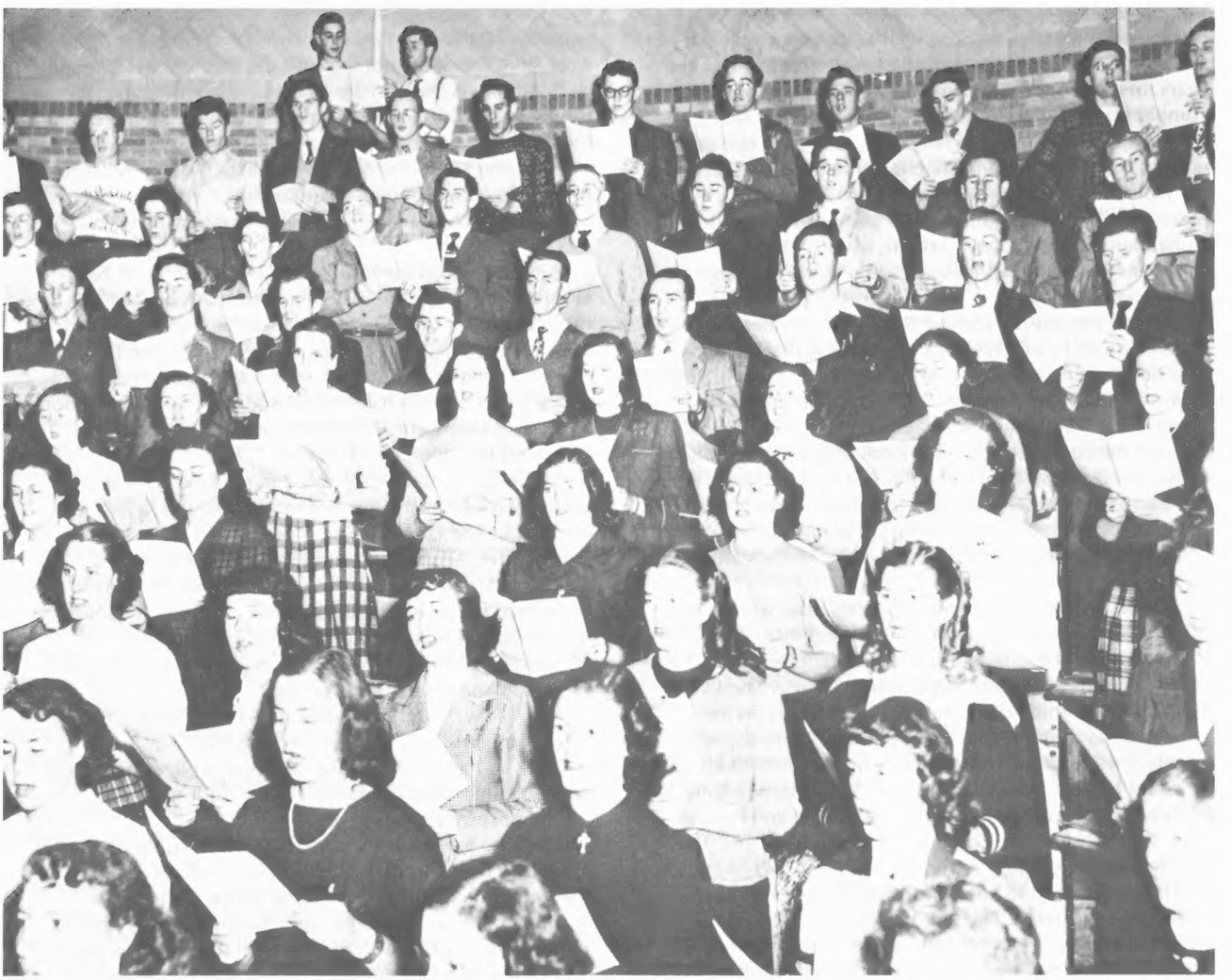
Madame Szekely adds a final touch. "You know, Isobel is the only non-Hungarian in the *entire* edition—the government had insisted on using native Hungarians."

The time is up. I have enough material by this time to fill three issues of *New Trail*, and I tell the Szekelys so. Then, a few quick pictures, of Zoltan Szekely, Madame Szekely, Tom Rolston, of them individually, of them together. The Szekelys ask if I will send them copies of the pictures and, perhaps, of the article.

I shake hands with Madame Szekely, thanking her for her hospitality. Then Rolston, Zoltan Szekely and I leave the apartment. On the main floor we shake hands and say goodbye. I leave, wondering how to begin this article, how to convey the impressions I had received, in writing.

Greatness is difficult to measure. It has no specific quantity. It is no more than an attitude on the part of the beholder, which means that its bestowal is totally subjective and never unanimous. It is also an individual matter; it does not depend on the adulation of the masses. And its expression usually is non-verbal—it is something felt rather than articulated.

Despite this subjectivity, I think people would agree that a truly great person has the unique ability to communicate his or her genius to others without compromising anything. And, in this most important respect, I realize that I have just come away from a meeting with a truly great person.

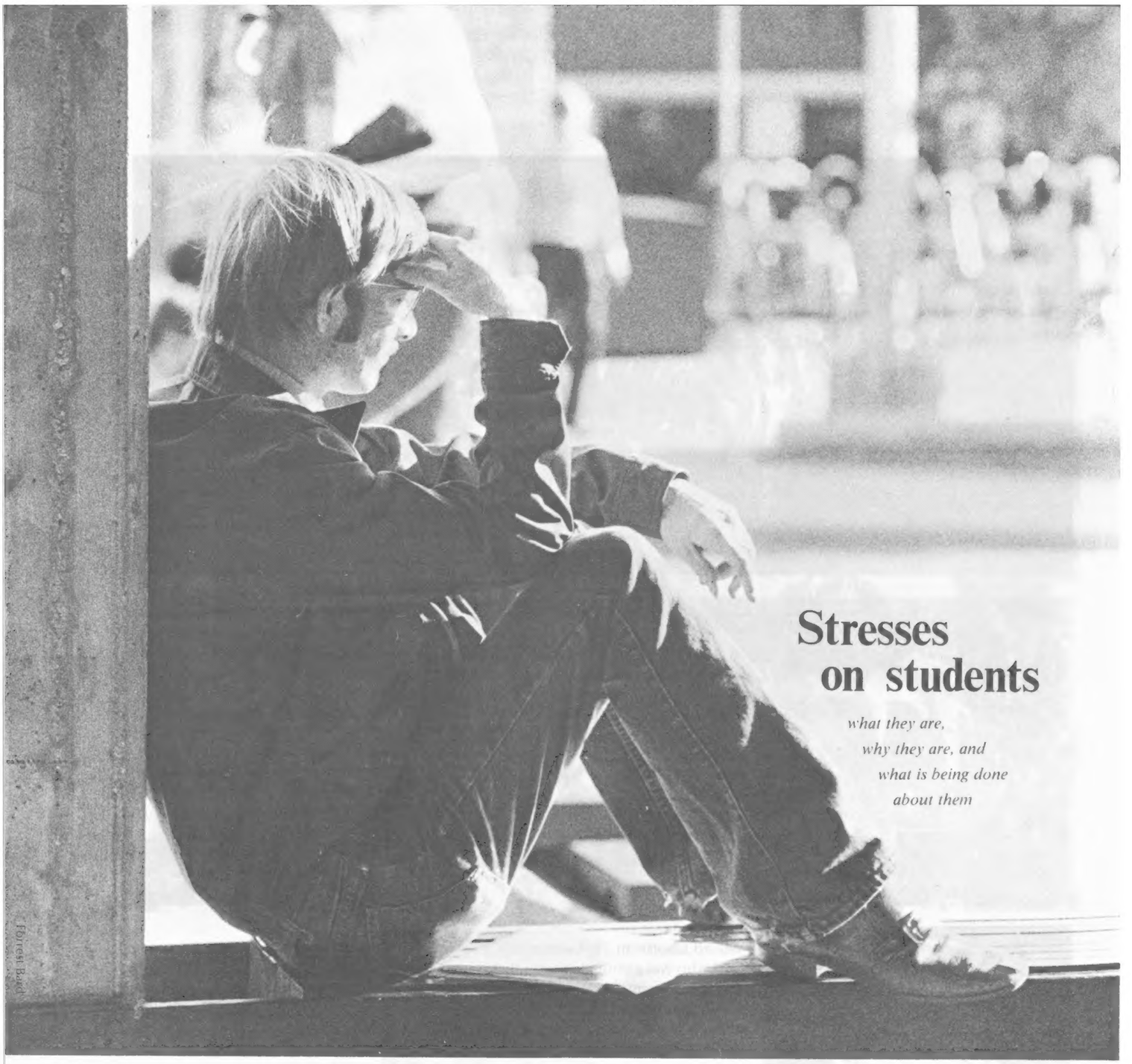


The Mixed Chorus tradition

Tradition doesn't seem to carry much weight for western society. In fact, the society is so young and so bent on being "with it" that establishing a tradition which has any hope of lasting is nearly impossible.

Somewhere along the line, though, in its thirty years, The University of Alberta Mixed Chorus has managed to become a tradition. Toward the end of each winter, in February or March, one comes to look for the Mixed Chorus concert. Later, in April after final exams, again you expect to hear that the Mixed Chorus is singing its songs in any number of towns in Alberta or elsewhere in Western Canada. The solid hours of practising all through winter session are themselves an established tradition within the chorus, and the combination of hard work, fun (like the pig roast on page 7), travel, teammanship, and finally performing together seems to have impressed itself on the mind of everyone who has ever been a part of the chorus. Certainly the spirit and the enthusiasm persist long after the members have graduated and gone their several ways. Gordon Clark (page 7, bottom), who started the

Mixed Chorus in 1944 when he was a student in medicine and who was conductor until three years later, travelled to Edmonton from his home in California this winter to help celebrate the group's thirtieth anniversary and to demonstrate that his conducting arm was as good as ever. Chorus alumni proved they could still carry a tune and eagerly exchanged old memories, often of Richard Eaton, "the Boss" (Page 6, bottom) who conducted the chorus for twenty years until his death in 1968. Peggy Eaton is still as much a part of the Mixed Chorus's life as when her husband was conductor. She has gone on practically all the group's tours and has attended all its concerts. In its anniversary concert program this year she wrote, "For twenty years this was his family and though thousands of students passed in and out of Chorus, he never forgot a face and seldom a name." More than anyone else, Richard Eaton set the musical standard of the chorus and determined the group's enthusiastic character. The faces of the mixed Chorus have changed, there have been two new conductors since Professor Eaton, but the music is as demanding, the quality as high, and the spirit of the singers as joyful as ever.



Forrest Bard

Stresses on students

what they are, why they are, and what is being done about them

by Jeanette Rothrock, New Trail staff

It was about five years ago that the Pembina house committee reported that a disproportionate number of students in that residence alone had been prescribed tranquilizers.

The report was discussed at length in the Committee on Student Affairs (a standing committee of General Faculties Council) and other observations of malaise surfaced: the rift that had been developing in student-faculty relations since the mid-sixties, the sharp increase in vandalism that was more purposeless destruction than good old varsity pranks (perhaps the decline in good old varsity pranks was a symptom in itself). The committee agreed that it sensed that the amount of stress on students was higher than was usual or good for either the University or the students. The stress seemed to be general, too, not the kind of stress that could be directly linked to some particular course. The committee members recommended that a study be made of excessive stress on students, and about a year later General Faculties Council created the Committee to Study Student Stress.

Hans Selye of McGill University, the discoverer of the stress syndrome, gives a simple definition of stress as "the wear and tear in the body caused by life." "Stress," wrote Selye, "is usually the outcome of a struggle for the

self-preservation . . . of parts within a whole. This is true of individual cells within man, of man within society, and of individual species within the whole animate world." As a corollary, then, it should also be true of individual students within the great corporate mass of a large university.

But, as Selye observed, stress is common to all biological activities, and excessive stress is not the sole reserve of university students. Stress is a fact of life, and one simply has to learn to live with it. Why, then, should the university bother to strike a committee, give reports and give expensive time to study stress on its students?

The most callous answer might be that while a moderate amount of stress may improve a student's academic performance, excessive stress on students costs money: for every University student who fails a year because of excessive stress (or for any other reason), costs in the neighborhood of $4,000. It is in the best interests of society that each student's mental and physical well-being be maintained so that he can get on with the job of being a student, of learning whatever he needs to learn to be of use to the community.

Another reason, though, seemed to be more important for members of the Committee to Study Student Stress, for those who made submissions, and for those who discussed the committee's report in March in General Faculties Council. That reason, perhaps, can be called simple humanity: as one submission put it, "life is short, and there is no point in making it unavoidably brutish."

All of the submissions received, whether reflecting faculty or student opinion, acknowledged that students were indeed under considerable stress. This stress was not necessarily the quantifiable, scientific stress measured objectively in terms of heart rate, blood pressure, muscle tension, tremor rate, galvanic skin response, and blood constituents. Rather it was a feeling of stress, or perhaps of a flood of little stresses which together might make the general stress unbearable. "The fact that you cannot see it directly," wrote Selye, "does not make stress less real."

General stress, however, is not as easily defined as mumps or hepatitis or schizophrenia, and the committee agreed at an early stage that it would be cumbersome to base its work on a set definition of stress. Instead, it simply asked students, through *Course Guide* and other questionnaires and through interviews, whether they felt themselves under stress, and if so, why.

Except for first year students who have to make the abrupt change from high school to university, most students did not complain about the usual academic stresses. A normal undergraduate course load is five courses per term, and that all five professors invariably give assignments which fall due on the same day is just one of those damnable things. This kind of stress is probably a reasonable preparation for the working life, in which everything *always* happens at once. The wise students soon learn to keep up with all the work in all their courses; the unwise majority at least realize that the academic stress they feel at manufacturing the year's load of term papers in the last two weeks of March is their own doing, and they are philosophical enough not to blame the system.

For first year students, mature students, and professional and preprofessional students academic stresses of this sort compound other stresses.

Professional students who fail a course or even, in some cases, find themselves at the bottom of the class, may be forced out of their program; at best they may be able to repeat a full year to make up for the course they missed. Preprofessional students are forced into keen competition for comparatively few openings in Medicine, Dentistry, Law, and other faculties with limited enrolment, here or at other universities. A mature student's university career would simply end if he failed his first year (enough people were concerned to have changed this rule by the time the report on student stress was made). For these students a professor's aberrant marking system or an inability to understand an instructor's accent may become a crucial stress, may be the single factor which will turn career plans upsidedown.

Freshman students coming directly from high school face a work load and pressure for which they rarely are prepared. The sheer bulk of work to be done, the books to be read and assignments to be written, the level of sophistication of even first year work, the fact that no one but themselves is responsible for the completion of their work—the academic differences between the two levels of education are colossal. Bright students who sailed merrily from kindergarten through grade twelve suddenly have to learn how to work. Assiduous students have fewer difficulties, but all new University students have to learn new skills, especially how to write term papers, whose form and content vary from discipline to discipline (and sometimes from professor to professor) and how to find their way through the foreign land of a major research library.

A major stress factor that seems to have been overlooked by the administrators and professors and not really acknowledged by students themselves is that the average undergraduate is still in the process of maturing, of forming an identity for himself.

A publication entitled *Quality of Educational Life Priorities for Today,* produced by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in 1972, lists the "age-specific developmental tasks in which most students at college are engaged . . . the attainment of competence in chosen skills, pride in personal identity; security in moral and social values, confidence in interpersonal relationships, and emotional expression. The first task . . . has traditionally been the main preoccupation of higher education. The system has left the accomplishment of the other tasks to happenstance. Most important, the system has not been concerned with how its dynamics impede the students' progress in fulfilling these tasks. It has left any problems the student encounters in these other areas in the hands of student and mental health services. The division thus imposed is artificial, because all these developmental tasks are integral to the students' capacity to learn."

Isabel Munroe, Dean of Women and Chairman of the Committee to Study Student Stress, maintains that the

impact of this personality development is greater at university than it is in an employment situation. At university most of a student's peers are engaged in the same maturing tasks he is; in a job, the young person has fewer peers and closer relations to older and more experienced individuals. "Maturing through work has real benefits," she commented. "I had started from the premise that students who have jobs would be under more stress than students who didn't, but now my real impression is the reverse." There is something ego-supportive about a job, and especially about being paid for one's work. "At university," said Miss Munroe, "it's too often a question of ego demolition. Students and faculty are both unaware of maturational needs. It is very easy to misuse a position of superiority to make someone feel inferior as a person because his skills are not sufficiently developed. You have to realize that skills are different from the person." Those who are working or have worked at a job are less vulnerable on this count than the average student straight from high school.

Mature students, students over 21 who have been admitted to university although they lack the normal qualifications, usually are not subject to the stresses of maturing. They enter university with equally pressing anxieties, though, anxieties about being intellectually rusty and unable to handle the work (exacerbated by University regulations that they cannot repeat a course and that failure within the first year is a complete failure), anxieties about the age difference between themselves and the other students, anxieties about not being able to fit in. It takes a lot of courage for mature students to come to university in the first place; it takes a lot more for them to remain.

Foreign students, as well as shouldering the other stresses of student life, have to adapt to a different culture and often to a different language. Many overseas students, such as those who come on CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) scholarships to study medicine or dentistry, have to endure a lengthy separation from their families. One of the committee's recommendations was that the University make representation to the government departments concerned that spouses and children be included whenever possible in sponsored educational schemes.

The University's Foreign Student Office has done much through orientation programs, a foreign student handbook, and ordinary help and good advice to ameliorate many of the difficulties of these students. Until last year an excellent English language program helped foreign students considerably with language problems; the program was discontinued last year by the Board of Governors because of budget restrictions, so the stress of language problems is back in force.

Disillusionment and alienation figure prominently among student complaints. Students come hoping to be a part of the much-touted "community of scholars," only to find themselves isolated from their professors by a barrier of red tape. Professors and administrators tend to react against any accusation of behaving *in loco parentis*, so that they shrink from offering the personal advice and guidance they should be giving and fall back on a mass of regulations and on the formal student services. Outside the classroom, student-faculty contacts are rare; this is especially true for undergraduates, who have more need and less opportunity than graduate students for an informal acquaintance with their professors. At The University of Alberta, the days of faculty living on campus, with their homes as gathering places for students, are now a thing of the past. Students, who probably don't realize how much they need the influence and support of people older than themselves to help them develop their identity, are left with their own society, hardly what they perceive as a "community of scholars," and with a sense that they are being left out of something important.

Paul Sartoris, a member of the Student Counselling Services staff and of the Committee to Study Student Stress, said that the committee should have been called the Committee to Create a More Humanistic and More Personal University, because that is really what it sought to do. The specific recommendations to General Faculties Council were more or less designed to decrease if not eliminate bureaucratic snags and unnecessary rules and to provide for more personal contact between students and faculty, whether by encouraging more coffee lounges in teaching areas or by suggesting that tutorials be part of large classes. One recommendation was for a study to be made of student loneliness: not that one can overcome loneliness by studying it, but one can learn what facilities a lonely student might use or places he might go if he wanted companionship.

The causes and kinds and limits of stress are different for every human being. Obviously it would be impossible to legislate "excessive stress" out of existence in a university or anywhere else. Nor would it be wise to try to do so, for eliminating the burden for one might mean eliminating excitement and challenge for another. In universities as in society, often bad regulations have been devised with the best possible intentions and have become the bastion of bureaucrats. The resulting real-life parlor game gives neither excitement nor challenge to anyone; any one hassle of this kind may be the last straw for someone whose capacity for coping is already taxed to the limit.

Encouraging more person to person relations between professors and students would give a great many students the anchor they need to avoid a sense of alienation, would give a sense of a "community of scholars" again, but neither can this be legislated. The University can't turn the time back to when it was a small personal institution where everyone knew and respected everyone else. As much as they can, though, in this large campus, many professors still try to establish personal contacts with their students, encourage them, goad them, worry about them.

Whatever the University as an institution is able to do with the Committee's many recommendations, the largest reason for hope is that it knows there is a problem and is willing to spend considerable time and energy to make this a kinder place for its students.

alumni notes

'20 The Right Honourable Roland Michener, *BA,* has been re-elected a director and chairman of the board, Teck Corporation Limited. **'22** The first woman president of the Old Timers' Association in Edmonton, **Mrs. Christina McKnight,** *BA,* has been named factor of Fort Edmonton. **'36** A volunteer executive assignment in Malaysia has been accepted by **Allan D.McTavish,** *BCom.* Mr. McTavish is in Kuala Lumpur in an advisory capacity for Canadian Executive Service Overseas. He will assist the Malaysian government with management and organizational problems. **'27 Florence Scoffield,** *BA,* has officially resigned as librarian at St. Stephen's College, and Archivist for Alberta Conference, United Church of Canada. The Alberta courts recently lost one of their leading legal scholars. **Mr. Justice Horace Johnson,** *LLB,* retired in December. **'28** A senior life membership in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan was presented recently to **George C.Bradley,** *MD.* **'35** Since 1960 **Marianne E.Linnell,** *HEc,* has been an alderman on Vancouver City Council where she has been an outspoken advocate of the "quality of life" concept of city government. **Edward F.Donald,** *MD,* has been elected a senior life member of the Alberta Medical Association. **Herrick M.Roche,** *BCom,* who retired in 1969 as regional manager, London Life Assurance Company, has gone to Barbados to serve as consultant to a mutual life society, advising on methods of recruiting, training, and supervising of sales personnel. **'41** Enthusiastic, dedicated, and sincere are the words that best describe **Vic Henning,** *BSc(Eng),* the new executive director of the Banff School of Advanced Management. **Jean Holowach Thurston,** *MD,* associate professor of pediatrics at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri, has completed a scientific study of epileptic children to determine the effects of drug withdrawal on this disease of the central nervous system. **'44 Harry Hole,** *BSc(Eng),* has been appointed to the board of directors of Northwestern Utilities Limited. **'47 Brent Scott,** *BSc(Eng),* has been appointed Executive Vice-President of Syncrude Canada Limited. **'48 P.Ray Clarke,** *BSc(Eng),* is vice-president and general manager of Kidd Creek Operations for Texasgulf Incorporated in Timmins, Ontario. **R.B.Oldaker,** *BSc,* has recently been appointed president and chairman of the board of International Hydrodynamics Limited. The company builds the well-known Pisces submersibles, and recently began production of a larger type. **J.Finley,** *BCom,* is now vice-president and comptroller of Majestic Construction. **Marvin E.Seale,** *BSc(Ag),* has been appointed head of the department of animal science in the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Manitoba. **'49** The new Dean of Medicine at The University of Alberta is **Donald F. Cameron,** *MD.* Dr. Cameron has been Associate Dean of Medicine since 1962. **Margaret Andrekson,** *BA,* has been appointed to the Board of Governors at The University of Alberta. **Fred Dorward,** *BSc(Eng),* is vice-president of Digital Data Systems Development Limited. **A.J.(Al) Church,** *BSc(Ag),* has assumed new responsibilities in the Manitoba Department of Agriculture as director of special projects, marketing and production division. Spartan Controls Limited has announced the election of **C.R."Nip" Guest,** *BSc(Eng),* as president and general manager of the company. Calgary oilman **Nick Taylor,** *BSc,* is the new provincial Liberal leader in Alberta. **Walter J.Riva,** *BSc(Eng),* has been named vice-president, mining operations, Kaiser Resources Limited. Lieutenant Colonel **L.A.Richardson,** *DDS,* has been promoted to the rank of Colonel. **'50** Lieutenant Colonel **D.H.Protheroe,** *DDS,* has been promoted to the rank of Colonel. **Hector J.Hortie,** *BSc(Ag),* is director-general of the department of regional economic expansion for the Nova Scotia region. **Harvey Hogge,** *BSc(Eng),* has been appointed to the environment conservation authority in Alberta. **W.A. Scotland,** *BSc(Eng),* has been made a board member of the National Energy Board in Ottawa. Mr. Scotland was previously senior adviser, oil and gas, Canada-U.S. relations for the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. **B.A.Low,** *DDS,* is the new president of the Alberta Dental Association. **J.M.B.Scarborough,** *BSc(Eng),* has been appointed director of mining for Cominco Limited in Trail, B.C. An employee of Westinghouse Canada Limited, **E.F.Glass,** *BSc(Eng),* has been appointed manager, utility sales, for the Manitoba-Saskatchewan district. **Arthur W.Crossley,** *LLB,* has been sworn in as a judge of the District Court of Northern Alberta. **'52** A change of lifestyle has been made by **Leonard Ling,** *BA,* who has opened a gifts and hobby shop in High River. **Roger Maggs,** *BSc(Eng), BD,* is chaplain for the Oshawa General Hospital. **Harry Kleparchuk,** *BEd,* has been elected president of the Edmonton Branch, Canadian Red Cross Society. **L.A.Bellows,** *BSc(Eng),* is now manager, pipelines department, the Energy Resources Conservation Board. **'53 Ralph G.Evans,** *BSc,* has been appointed assistant manager, field operations, development department, the Energy Resources Conservation Board. **'53 Ralph G.Evans, Cormack Marshall,** *LLB,* was recently named a provincial judge. Pacific Petroleums Limited has announced the appointment of **J.L.Smith,** *LLB,* as manager of their law department. **'54 Bruce M.Dafoe,** *BSc(Eng),* is vice-president of Northwestern Utilities Limited and Canadian Western Natural Gas Company Limited. **'57 P.E.Simons,** *MD,* has been appointed commissioner of the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. **Gordon E.Arnell,** *LLB,* has been appointed president of Seaboard Life Insurance Company. Mr. Arnell is now the president of North West Trust Company, and both it and Seaboard are subsidiaries of Allarco Developments Limited. Two University of Alberta chemical engineering professors, **F.D.Otto,** *BSc(Eng),* and **A.E.Mather,** *BSc(Eng)'60,* have received a grant of $47,475 to continue studies into production of heavy water, a key component in nuclear reactors. **'58 Harry R.Rudy,** *MSc,* has been appointed exploration manager for Canadian Export Gas & Oil Limited. The appointment of **David L.Bowman,** *BSc(Eng),* as district production and drilling superintendent, has been announced by Atlantic Richfield Canada Limited. **'59** One of the top graduates recently of the University of Toronto's hospital administration course, was **Joyce Perrin (Aylen)** *Nu.* **Lawrence M.McKnight,** *BSc(Ag),* has been appointed Research Associate in the Alberta Dairymen's Association Research unit, housed in the University's Food Science department. **'60 David G.Fish,** *BA,* has been appointed head of the University of Manitoba's social and preventive medicine department. **Alan G.Stuart,** *BSc(Eng),* is agri-

cultural representative for the Toronto-Dominion Bank, Alberta Division. **'61 W.P.Truch,** *BSc(Eng),* is now director of the commercial and industrial division for Underwood McLellan. **John (Jack) Lyndon,** *LLB,* has been appointed deputy minister of the provincial consumer department in Alberta. **'62** The new director of public relations for the Calgary United Fund is **Diane Kepford,** *BA.* Recently she was campaign director for the Easter Seal Campaign in York, Pennsylvania. The 1974 president of the YMCA is **David Grossman,** *LLB.* Ten years ago, **Hutchison Shandro,** *BA,* an aspiring young actor, left Edmonton for Toronto, the centre for theatre in English Canada. Today, "Hutch" has finally made it to Toronto, although he's still not fully settled there. In the meantime, he has made his living in theatre in Vancouver, Montreal and points in between. **Norman A.F.Mackie,** *BCom* has been named a provincial judge in Calgary. **'64** Two Edmonton high school teachers have been awarded one of two Alberta Hilroy fellowships for their "school without walls" project. The award will mean $1,400 for **Bill Hrychuk,** *BA,* and **Jorn Brauer,** *BEd,* for their work with CORE or Community Oriented Education, a program that sees 66 grade 11 students learning to react to their community by using it as a learning resource. **Derek A.Bone,** *BA,* is the new director of Medicare for the Province of New Brunswick. **Lucina Broadbent,** *BSc(Nu),* is assistant director of nursing education at the Calgary General Hospital. **'65 W.I.Campbell,** *BA,* is vice-president, director of marketing for Benson & Hedges Tobacco Company. **Nicholas Pulos,** *BA,* is principal violist with the Edmonton Symphony orchestra. **'66** A proposed study by a University of Alberta doctor of the effect on the lung of massive blood loss from automobile and other accidents has won support from the federal government. **Roger Amy,** *MD,* has been awarded a Medical Research Council fellowship to finance his work starting next summer at the Midhurst Medical Research Institute, England. **'67 Dennis W.Hirsch,** *MD,* has been named winner of the Medal in Surgery for his research into allograft tolerance and transplantation of the mouse heart. An enviable record is that of **Olaf (O.W.) Skjenna,** *MD,* who won an award for the person who contributed the most to aviation in Manitoba during the past year. He has been a mover in the Manitoba Aviation Council seminars on flight safety and is helping put together a Civil Air Patrol for the province to work in co-ordination with Canadian Forces search and rescue. **'68 J.M. (Jim) Proctor,** *BSc(Ag),* is serving as manager, special projects, agricultural services with the Royal Bank of Canada. **'69 Ernest Kassian,** *BA,* is with the Regina Symphony as principal viola player. He also teaches at the University of Sakatchewan's music conservatory on the Regina campus and helped introduce the Suzuki method in teaching violin to children in Regina and Saskatoon. One of two Canadian female ambulance drivers is **Heather Wilson,** *BSc(Nu);* in Spruce Grove. Not only does she load and drive the vehicle but is also a part owner of the company. **'70 Geraldine D.Shantz,** *MSc,* was recently awarded a PhD in Microbiology from Pennsylvania State University. University of Chicago scientists have developed methods for the isolation of adult human heart cells and their growth and replication in the laboratory. One of the principal participants in this research is **Ashish C.Nag,** *PhD.* **'71 Anthony W.Thomas,** *PhD,* has joined the Canadian Forestry Service's Maritimes Forest Research Centre in Fredericton, N.B. as a research scientist. He will conduct studies in the field of forest protection as a member of a MFRC spruce budworm research team. **Darrold E.Quartly,** *BEd,* is vice-principal at Dovercourt School in Edmonton. **Dick Ballhorn,** *LLB,* is among twenty-five young people touring Canada on a year's intensive preparation for work as a Canadian trade commissioner abroad. **'72 Brian W.Plesuk,** *BA (RecAdmin),* has changed the approximate date for his class reunion. It will be held now in late August or early September. Further information is obtainable from Brian at 10821 126 Street, Edmonton. A book of poetry entitled *The Green Butterfly,* written by **Einhard Kluge,** *MA,* has been published by the Red Deer College Press. **'73 Ralph B.Young,** *MBA,* has joined Melton Real Estate as vice-president, land development.

Deaths

Roy Mattern, *BA'14,* pioneer of air traffic control, in Ottawa.
Steve Smotrych, *BSc(Eng)'56,* in Edmonton.
Henry Longhurst Gale, *LLB'25,* at Abbotsford, B.C.
W. Stanley Ross, *LLB'27,* well-known radio commentator and lawyer, in Edmonton.
Lawrence E. Kindt, *BSc(Ag)'29,* Progressive Conservative MP for Macleod from 1958 to 1968, in Calgary.
Jack Madill, *MD'31,* radiologist, in Vancouver.
Margaret Jean Brodie, *Dip(Nu)'32,* in Calgary.
William Crompton Howells, *BSc'32,* in Calgary.
Thelma Carlyle, *HEc'36,* in Mirror.
Margaret Cameron, *BA'37,* administrative/professional officer and assistant to the Dean of Education, U. of A., in Edmonton.
S. Stewart Graham, *BSc(Ag)'38,* former director of extension and colleges division of the Department of Agriculture, in Edmonton.

New Dean of Medicine Appointed

A University of Alberta alumnus and long time staff member has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University. Donald F. Cameron will succeed Walter C. MacKenzie, who is

retiring as Dean on July 1, 1974.

After earning his BA (1947) and MD (1949) here, Dr. Cameron joined the staff of the University. Since then he has taught in the departments of Pharmacology and Anaesthesia, and is now Associate Professor of Anaesthesia. He also has served as Assistant Dean (1962-65) and Associate Dean (1965-); he was Acting Dean in 1971-72.

Dr. Cameron has participated actively in the development of the Faculty of Medicine, as Chairman of the Clinical Sciences Building Committee and Member of the long range planning committee for the Health Sciences Centre. He is vice-president of the Medical Council of Canada and chairman of its qualifications committee.